Claims

All pending claims are reproduced below. Claims 33-37, 42 and 44 are being amended. No claims are currently being canceled or added.

1-12. (Canceled)

13. (Previously Presented)   A computer-implemented method for helping a user learn a subject, the subject having a plurality of areas, the method comprising:

retrieving test results from testing the user on at least one area of the subject after materials on the subject have been presented for the user to learn; and

analyzing the test results using a relationship rule to suggest certain activity for the user, wherein the relationship rule defines at least a relationship between at least two areas of the subject,

wherein the method further comprises

after the initial selection and presentation of materials regarding a specific area of the subject to the user, and further after the user has been assessed to have achieved at least a passing grade or to have understood the specific area, selecting one or more other areas of the subject for the user to work on, and

after selecting the one or more other areas of the subject for the user to work on, selecting the specific area of the subject for the user to work on for a second time, wherein the specific area has a difficulty level, and the specific area is selected for the user to work on for the second time depending on the difficulty level of the specific area.

14. (Previously Presented)   The method as set forth in claim 13, wherein:

the testing on the user comprises testing the user on a plurality of areas of the subject,

the subject includes a broad area and a narrow area, with the subject broader than the broad area, and with the broad area broader than the narrow area; and

the suggestion can be on the broad area.

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15. (Previously Presented)   The method as set forth in claim 13,

wherein based on the suggestion, materials are presented to the user to allow the user to practice on the subject so as to further enhance the user's understanding in the subject,

wherein the method further comprises transmitting at least a portion of the materials via a network to a device to be presented, and

wherein the network includes a private network and a public network.

16. (Previously Presented)   The method as set forth in claim 13, wherein the specific area is selected for the user to work on for the second time without depending on whether the user has been assessed to have achieved a certain satisfactory level of understanding in the one or more other areas.

17. (Withdrawn)   A computer-implemented method for helping a user learn a subject, the subject having a plurality of areas, the method comprising:

retrieving test results from testing the user on at least one area of the subject after materials on the subject have been presented for the user to learn; and

analyzing the test results using a relationship rule to suggest certain activity for the user,

wherein the relationship rule defines at least a relationship between at least two areas of the subject,

wherein the method further comprises retrieving materials relating a first area and a second area of the subject, with the user previously being assessed to have achieved a certain level of understanding in the first area, before retrieving materials in the second area, for the user to learn.

18. (Withdrawn)   The method as set forth in claim 17, further comprising retrieving, for the user to learn, materials in an area relating a third area and a fourth area of the subject, with the user previously being assessed to have achieved a certain level of understanding in both the third and the fourth areas, depending on the time elapsed from

the time when the user has been assessed to have achieved a certain level of understanding in the third area.

19. (Withdrawn)   A computer-implemented method for helping a user learn a subject, the subject having a plurality of areas, the method comprising:

retrieving test results from testing the user on at least one area of the subject after materials on the subject have been presented for the user to learn;

analyzing the test results using a relationship rule to suggest certain activity for the user, wherein the relationship rule defines at least a relationship between at least two areas of the subject; and

determining a reward for the user based on one or more conditions relating to the user learning the subject, wherein the reward depends on a previously-known preference of the user.

20. (Withdrawn)   The method as set forth in claim 19, further comprising determining whether to restrict the user from enjoying certain materials not for learning the subject, wherein the materials require a device to fulfill its entertainment purpose.

21. (Withdrawn)   A computer-implemented method for helping a user learn a subject, the subject having a plurality of areas, the method comprising:

retrieving test results from testing the user on at least one area of the subject; and

analyzing the test results using a relationship rule to suggest certain activity for the user, wherein the relationship rule defines at least a relationship between at least two areas of the subject,

wherein the method further comprises determining, based on one or more conditions relating to the user learning the subject, whether to restrict the user from enjoying certain materials not for learning the subject, and

wherein the restricting is achieved by modifying at least one function of a device with respect to the certain materials, and the materials require the at least one function of the device to fulfill the materials' entertainment purpose.

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22. (Withdrawn)   The method as set forth in claim 21, further comprising determining a reward for the user.

23. (Previously Presented)   A computer readable medium comprising a plurality of instructions for helping a user learn a subject, the subject having a plurality of areas, the plurality of instructions, when executed by a computer, result in the computer:

retrieving test results from testing the user on at least one area of the subject after materials on the subject have been presented for the user to learn; and

analyzing the test results using a relationship rule to suggest certain activity for the user, wherein the relationship rule defines at least a relationship between at least two areas of the subject,

wherein after the initial selection and presentation of materials regarding a specific area of the subject to the user, and further after the user has been assessed to have achieved at least a passing grade or to have understood the specific area, one or more other areas of the subject are selected for the user to work on,

wherein after the one or more other areas are selected for the user to work on, the specific area of the subject is selected for the user to work on for a second time, and

wherein the specific area is selected for the user to work on for the second time depending on a level achieved by the user in the assessment of the user, not just the user being assessed to have achieved at least a passing grade or to have understood the specific area.

24. (Previously Presented)   The computer readable medium as set forth in claim 23, wherein:

the testing on the user comprises testing the user on a plurality of areas of the subject;

the subject includes a broad area and a narrow area, with the subject broader than the broad area, and with the broad area broader than the narrow area; and

the suggestion can be on the broad area.

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25. (Previously Presented)   The computer readable medium as set forth in claim 23,

wherein based on the suggestion, materials are presented to the user to allow the user to practice on the subject so as to further enhance the user's understanding in the subject,

wherein the plurality of instructions, when executed by the computer, further result in the computer transmitting at least a portion of the materials via a network to a device to be presented, and

wherein the network includes a private network and a public network.

26. (Previously Presented)   The computer readable medium as set forth in claim 23, wherein the specific area is selected for the user for the second time without depending on whether the user has been assessed to have achieved a certain satisfactory level of understanding in the one or more other areas.

27. (Withdrawn)   A computer readable medium comprising a plurality of instructions for helping a user learn a subject, the subject having a plurality of areas, the plurality of instructions, when executed by a computer, result in the computer:

retrieving test results from testing the user on at least one area of the subject after materials on the subject have been presented for the user to learn;

analyzing the test results using a relationship rule to suggest certain activity for the user; and

retrieving materials relating a first area and a second area of the subject, with the user previously being assessed to have achieved a certain level of understanding in the first area, before retrieving materials in the second area, for the user to learn,

wherein the relationship rule defines at least a relationship between at least two areas of the subject.

28. (Withdrawn)   The computer readable medium as set forth in claim 27, wherein the plurality of instructions, when executed by a computer, further result in the computer retrieving, for the user to learn, materials in an area relating a third area and a

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fourth area of the subject, with the user previously being assessed to have achieved a certain level of understanding in both the third and the fourth areas, depending on the time elapsed from the time when the user has been assessed to have achieved a certain level of understanding in the third area.

29. (Withdrawn)   A computer readable medium comprising a plurality of instructions for helping a user learn a subject, the subject having a plurality of areas, the plurality of instructions, when executed by a computer, result in the computer:

retrieving test results from testing the user on at least one area of the subject after materials on the subject have been presented for the user to learn;

analyzing the test results using a relationship rule to suggest certain activity for the user, wherein the relationship rule defines at least a relationship between at least two areas of the subject; and

determining a reward for the user based on one or more conditions relating to the user learning the subject, wherein the reward depends on a previously-known preference of the user.

30. (Withdrawn)   The computer readable medium as set forth in claim 29, wherein the plurality of instructions, when executed by a computer, further result in the computer determining whether to restrict the user from enjoying certain materials not for learning the subject, wherein the materials require a device to fulfill its entertainment purpose.

31. (Withdrawn)   A computer readable medium comprising a plurality of instructions for helping a user learn a subject, the subject having a plurality of areas, the plurality of instructions, when executed by a computer, result in the computer:

retrieving test results from testing the user on at least one area of the subject;

analyzing the test results using a relationship rule to suggest certain activity for the user, wherein the relationship rule defines at least a relationship between at least two areas of the subject; and

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determining, based on one or more conditions relating to the user learning the subject, whether to restrict the user from enjoying certain materials not for learning the subject, wherein the restricting is achieved by modifying at least one function of a device with respect to the certain materials, and wherein the materials require the at least one function of the device to fulfill the materials' entertainment purpose.

32. (Withdrawn)   The computer readable medium as set forth in claim 31, wherein the plurality of instructions, when executed by a computer, further result in the computer determining a reward for the user.

33. (Currently Amended)   The method as set forth in claim 13, wherein the specific area is selected for the second time also depending on a time elapsed since the user has been assessed to have achieved at least a passing grade or to have understood the specific area.

34. (Currently Amended)   The method as set forth in claim 33, wherein the specific area is selected for the second time also depending on the time elapsed being more than a predetermined duration of time.

35. (Currently Amended)   The method as set forth in claim [[13]]33, wherein the specific area can be selected again, but if the time elapsed is more than a predetermined duration of time, the specific area is not selected again.

36. (Currently Amended)   The method as set forth in claim 13, wherein the specific area is selected for the second time also depending on a level achieved by the user in the assessment of the user, not just the user being assessed to have achieved at least a passing grade or to have understood the specific area.

37. (Currently Amended)   The method as set forth in claim 36, wherein the specific area is selected for the second time if [[a]] the level achieved by the user in the assessment of the user has not exceeded a predetermined threshold.

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38. (Previously Presented)   The method as set forth in claim 13 further comprising generating materials on the subject for the user to learn.

39. (Previously Presented)   The method as set forth in claim 13, wherein the specific area can be repeatedly selected for the user to work on, depending on the number of times the specific area has been previously selected for the user to work on.

40. (Previously Presented)   The method as set forth in claim 13,
wherein the specific area is one of the at least two areas of the subject that the relationship rule defines at least a relationship, and
wherein the certain activity suggested includes working in an area of the subject that relates the at least two areas of the subject.

41. (Previously Presented)   The method as set forth in claim 13, wherein the certain activity suggested includes working in an area of the subject that relates the at least two areas of the subject.

42. (Currently Amended)   The computer readable medium as set forth in claim 23, wherein the specific area is selected for the second time also depending on a time elapsed since the user has been assessed to have achieved at least a passing grade or to have understood the specific area.

43. (Previously Presented)   The computer readable medium as set forth in claim 23, wherein the plurality of instructions, when executed by a computer, further result in the computer generating materials on the subject for the user to learn.

44. (Currently Amended)   The computer readable medium as set forth in claim 23,
wherein the specific area has a difficulty level, and

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wherein the specific area is <u>also</u> selected for the second time depending on the difficulty level of the specific area.

45. (Previously Presented)   The computer readable medium as set forth in claim 23, wherein the specific area can be repeatedly selected for the user to work on, depending on the number of times the specific area has been previously selected for the user to work on.

46. (Previously Presented)   The computer readable medium as set forth in claim 23, wherein the specific area is one of the at least two areas of the subject that the relationship rule defines at least a relationship.

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